THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (g) As law and order is a State subject, it is the responsibility of the conerned State/UT Governments to make foolproof security arrangements for Chief Minister or former Chief Minister in order to prevent attacks by terrorist/militant groups on them. However, the threat inputs being received from Central security agencies are being regularly shared with the concerned State Governments for taking appropriate action in this regard. Issues concerning VIP security are considered in all major meetings on internal security.

Special status to Bihar to deal with naxalism

964. SHRI PROMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pelased to state:

(a) whether Patna High Court has asked the Central Government to accord special status to the Government of Bihar to deal with the Naxalite problem in the State; and

(b) if so, what is the Government's reaction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) There has been no such direction to the Central Government by the Patna High Court.

(b) Does not arise.

Security of women in metro cities

965. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pelased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a large number of cases of molestation, rape and gang rape were reported in metros during last week of the year 2005 despite measures being taken to prevent the same;

(b) if so, the details of such cases;

(c) whether all the culprits involved have been brought to book;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to ensre safety and security of women in metropolitan cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) collects the crime figures from the States, Union Terrotories and Mega Cities on annual and monthly basis. Hence, the number of cases of molestation, rape and gang rape reported during last week of year 2005 are not available. However, a statement on crime figures reported in four Metro cities under the above three crime Heads during last month (December) of 2005 is annexed.

As reported by Delhi Police, there was no case of gang rape during the last week of the year 2005. However, 3 cases of rape and 8 cases of molestation have been reported during the above said week.

(c) to (e) As per the seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and, as such, detection, registration, investigation and" prevention of crime and prosecution of accused are primarily the responsibilities of the State Governments. Case-wise information of accused persons being brought to book is not collected by NCRB on monthly or weekly basis. However, the Government of India has from time to time been issuing advisories to State Governments and Union Territories to make concerted efforts to improve the administration of Criminal Justice System and to take effective measures to control crimes against all vulnerable sections of the society, including women.

The steps taken by Delhi Police to prevent crimes against women include establishment of Crime against Women Cells; setting up of Rape Crisis Intervention Centres in all the nine Police Districts; association of Women Police Officers and NGOs in investigation of rape cases; setting up three Special Courts headed by women judges; networking with NGOs; deployment of staff in plain clothes at vulnerable places; starting of dedicated telephone helplines; and constitution of 'Women Mobile Team' to attend to distress calls from women on round-the-clock basis; providing counseling through the NGOs to the needy complainant; seeking help of NGOs and professionals such as social workers, doctors, psychologists, lawyers and special counselors during the investigation of rape cases; association of NGOs to assist the victims during medical examination, counseling, treatment and rehabilitation; Self-defence training programme and the

recently launched scheme 'Parivartan' under which lady beat constables have been deployed in selected slum areas.

Mao militants intensified

†966. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pelased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late Mao militants have intensified there aggression by targeting and blasting communication towers, railway stations and police posts with land mines in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Bihar;

(b) whether it is a fact that these such incidents prove that these militants are in contact with Mao militants of Nepal and that these Nepali militants impart training and supply arms and ammunition and explosive material here; and

(c) if so, Government's views in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) In 2005, while there has been increased naxal violence in Chhattisgarh including incidents of destruction of infrastructure, States of Bihar and Jharkhand have recorded decrease in naxal violence in 2005. However, there were serious incidents of naxal violence like looting of weapons from the Giridih Home Guard training centre on 11.11.2005 in Jharkhand and the Jehanabad jailbreak on 13.11.2005 in Bihar.

(b) and (c) Available reports do not suggest that Nepalese Maoists are providing training and arms to Indian naxal groups.

Notification of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill

967. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pelased to state:

(a) whether the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill passed last year, on receiving President's assent were notified and if so, on what date;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what further action is being contemplated in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.